for sustainable employment through forestry activities on **degraded revenue forest land.** Three projects have been sanctioned by the Ministry for the districts of Shahdol, Damoh and Chhatarpur with a total cost of Rs. 250 lakh, Rs. 500 lakh and Rs. 600 lakh, respectively during 2003-2004

Assistance for increasing staff at block level

†2174. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that due to various Centrally sponsored development schemes such as Jawahar Rozgar Yojana, Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS) and Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana, etc., the burden is mounting on the Block Development Offices of the country and due to shortage of staff, million of rupees remain unutilized every year; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to deal with this situation and whether Government propose to provide assistance on its behalf for increasing staff at the block level?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) and (b) At present, funds are being provided by the Ministry of Rural Development under the DRDA Administration Scheme for meeting the staff and contingency expenses of District Rural Development Agencies who are responsible for overseeing the implementation of various rural development programmes at district level. There is no proposal at present for providing financial assistance for increasing staff at block levels.

Gramin Bhavan Kendras

†2175. SHRI BALAVANT *ALIAS* BALAPTE:
SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have set up 'Gramin Bhavan Kendras' in several States;

(b) if so, the State-wise details thereof;

(c) the State-wise number of proposals lying pending as on date; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.